



## Predawn Missouri tornado kills at least 5, sows destruction



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Keith Lincoln stands outside his damaged home in Glen Allen, Mo., on Wednesday, April 5, 2023.  
Associated Press

### Important Notice

The Aruba Today Newspaper announces that due to the Holiday Weekend upon us, we will not be in circulation Friday, April 7, Saturday, April 8, or Monday, April 10. We will be back on newsstands everywhere bright and early to serve our readers and advertisers first thing in the morning, Tuesday, April 11. Until then, enjoy your Holiday Weekend on Aruba from the team at the Aruba Today Newspaper, Aruba's ONLY English Newspaper! □



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Padu del  
Caribe!

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### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

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## Predawn Missouri tornado kills at least 5, sows destruction

From Front

By JIM SALTER and SCOTT McFETRIDGE

Associated Press

**GLEN ALLEN, Mo. (AP)** — A large tornado tore through southeastern Missouri before dawn on Wednesday, killing at least five people and causing widespread destruction as a broad swath of the Midwest and South kept a wary eye out for further storms that could spawn additional twisters and hail.

Wednesday's severe weather was the third in a series of massive storms over the last two weeks that have spawned dozens of tornadoes, mainly in the South and Midwest, killing at least 63 people. Just last weekend, confirmed or suspected tornadoes in at least eight states laid waste to neighborhoods across a broad swath of the country.

The Missouri tornado touched down around 3:30 a.m. Wednesday and moved through a rural

area of Bollinger County, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of St. Louis, said Sgt. Clark Parrott of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Trees were uprooted and homes turned into piles of splinters. One building was flipped on its side. Drone footage showed emergency crews peering into the wreckage with flashlights. More than 20 agencies were part of the search for survivors and victims, with the damage so bad that they sometimes were forced to use chainsaws to cut back trees and brush to reach homes, Parrott said. "It's just heartbreaking to see it," Parrott said. The damage was concentrated around the small rural communities of Glen Allen and Grassy, which are separated by a hunting area, said Bollinger County Sheriff Casey Graham in a Facebook post announcing the five deaths. He didn't immediately release the victims' names. Charles Collier, 61, said he saw the coroner's van drive

by with its lights on in Glen Allen, where he owns a storage facility.

"That was a sad, sad sight -- knowing there was bodies in there," said Collier, who wasn't entirely relieved when he saw his facility was spared. "I was just numb, thinking about all these other people, what they're going through."

Josh Wells said that the tornado tore half of the roof off his Glen Allen home and pushed in his bedroom wall. Luckily, he fled beforehand with his son to his sister's home because it has a basement.

"We all ran down and huddled against the wall and my brother-in-law made it down just seconds before we heard the roaring sound of the wind and debris crashing around us," he said. Justin Gibbs, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Paducah, Kentucky, said the tornado remained on the ground for roughly 15 minutes, traveling an estimated 15-20 miles (24-32 kilometers).

Based on early data, the tornado received a preliminary EF-2 rating, packing wind speeds of 130 mph (228 kph). Gibbs noted that tornadoes are especially dangerous when they touch down late at night or early in the morning, as this one did. "It's definitely a nightmare from a warning standpoint," Gibbs said.

"It's bad anytime, but it's especially bad at 3:30 in the morning."

A phone weather alert awakened Bobby Masters, who said debris was slamming his Glen Allen home as he took shelter in his basement with his family. He recalled hearing a roar as the tornado passed.

"I had never heard a tornado before. They say it sounds like a freight train and that is exactly what it sounds like," he said, adding: "The good Lord spared us, our family and our house." Keith Lincoln, 56, who also was awakened by a phone alert, huddled in a bathtub with his wife and 18-year-old daughter and prayed: "Just save us and the house." He spent the afternoon patching his roof but was thankful his prayer was mostly answered.

Chris Green, 35, found a small black dog dead in the debris. "I can't just leave it here," he said as he and his father buried the animal.

The area is rural, with residents mostly farming, cutting timber or working construction jobs, said Larry Welker, Bollinger County's public administrator. The entire county's population only totals around 10,500. The battered communities are tiny, little more than a few scattered homes and businesses.

Gov. Mike Parson said he would join emergency personnel on the ground to

assess damage and determine what resources are needed. They planned a news conference in the afternoon.

Missouri's U.S. Sens. Eric Schmitt and Josh Hawley, meanwhile, said they're in touch with local leaders and ready to help. Schmitt also warned Missouri residents in a statement to stay alert "as there's more severe weather on the horizon." The storms moving through the Midwest and South on Wednesday threaten some areas still reeling from the deadly bout of bad weather last weekend. The Storm Prediction Center said up to 40 million people in an area that includes major cities including Chicago, Indianapolis, Detroit and Memphis, Tennessee, were at risk from the storms later Wednesday.

Schools in Little Rock, Arkansas, canceled Wednesday classes because the storms were expected to move through the area during the morning rush, KFVS-TV reported.

In central Illinois, authorities said five people were hurt and about 300 homes were without power due to a tornado that struck in Fulton County on Tuesday evening. Chris Helle, who directs the county's Emergency Services Disaster Agency, said one of the people injured was in critical condition.

Helle said the damage was concentrated near the town of Bryant, about 200 miles (322 kilometers) southwest of Chicago. Fire departments and other first responders were still cataloguing the damage there, but Helle said numerous homes had been destroyed. He credited people for listening to advance warnings and taking shelter. □



Debris covers the ground as homes are damaged after severe weather in Glen Allen, Mo., on Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

Associated Press

## EPA tightens mercury emissions limits at coal power plants

By MATTHEW DALY

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Environmental Protection Agency is tightening rules that limit emissions of mercury and other harmful pollutants from coal-fired power plants, updating standards imposed more than a decade ago.

The rules proposed Wednesday would lower emissions of mercury and other toxic pollutants that can harm brain development of young children and contribute to heart attacks and other health problems in adults.

The move follows a legal finding by EPA in February that regulating toxic emissions under the Clean Air Act is "appropriate and necessary" to protect the public health.

The Feb. 17 finding reversed a move by former President Donald Trump's administration to weaken the legal basis for limiting mercury emissions.

The proposed rule will support and strengthen EPA's Mercury and Air Toxics Standards, which have delivered a 90% reduction in mercury emissions from power plants since they were adopted in 2012 under former President Barack Obama, EPA Administrator Michael Regan said.

"By leveraging proven,



**Environmental Protection Agency administrator Michael Regan testifies before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing to examine President Joe Biden's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Environmental Protection Agency, on Capitol Hill, March 22, 2023, in Washington.**

Associated Press

emissions-reduction measures available at reasonable costs and encouraging new, advanced control technologies, we can reduce hazardous pollution from coal-fired power plants protecting our planet and improving public health for all," Regan said in a statement.

The proposed rule is expected to become final next year, "ensuring historic protections for communities across the nation, especially for our children

and our vulnerable populations," Regan said.

The new rule aims to eliminate up to 70% of mercury emissions and other toxic pollutants such as lead, nickel and arsenic, while also reducing fine dust from coal plant emissions.

The proposal is in line with a larger push by the EPA under President Joe Biden to restore dozens of federal environmental protections that were rolled back by Trump's administration, including reinstating rigorous

environmental reviews for large infrastructure projects, protecting thousands of waterways and preserving endangered species.

Coal-fired power plants are the largest single man-made source of mercury pollutants, which enter the food chain through fish and other items that people consume. Mercury can affect the nervous system and kidneys; the World Health Organization says fetuses are especially vulnerable to birth defects

via exposure in a mother's womb.

Environmental and public health groups praised the EPA proposal, saying it protects Americans, especially children, from some of the most dangerous forms of air pollution.

"There is no safe level of mercury exposure, and while we have made significant progress advancing clean energy, coal-fired power plants remain one of the largest sources of mercury pollution," said Holly Bender, senior director of energy campaigns for the Sierra Club.

"It's alarming to think that toxic pollutants from coal plants can build up in places like Lake Michigan," where many Americans camp and swim during the summer, "and where people fish to feed their families," Bender said. "Our kids deserve to live and play in a healthy, safe environment."

The Edison Electric Institute, which represents U.S. investor-owned electric companies, said it was reviewing details of the EPA proposal, but added that its members "have fully and successfully implemented the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards" for 11 years, "resulting in dramatically reduced mercury and related emissions" from U.S. power plants. □

## Bob Lee, Cash App founder and MobileCoin exec, slain at 43

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

Bob Lee, a technology executive who created Cash App and was currently chief product officer of MobileCoin, was fatally stabbed in San Francisco early Tuesday, according to the cryptocurrency platform and police. The San Francisco Police Department said in a press release that officers responded to a report of a stabbing on Main Street at 2:35 a.m. Tuesday and found a 43-year-old man suffering from apparent stab wounds. The victim died at a hospital.

Police did not identify the victim but MobileCoin

confirmed Lee's death in response to an email from The Associated Press on Wednesday.

"Our dear friend and colleague, Bob Lee passed away yesterday at the age of 43, survived by a loving family and collection of close friends and collaborators," MobileCoin CEO Josh Goldbard said in a statement. Lee was "made for the new world," Goldbard wrote.

"From large contributions to Android at Google, to being the first CTO of Square, in that time creating CashApp, and working with us here at MobileCoin, Bob surely had an impact

that will last far beyond his short time on earth," he said.

Lee came to MobileCoin as an early stage investor and advisor, then became chief product officer and helped launch the Moby app, Goldbard said. Lee was the chief technology officer at digital payments company Square in 2013 when it launched a money transfer application now known as Cash App.

The police statement did not provide any details on the circumstances of the stabbing.

"This is an open and active investigation. For that reason we are not releasing

further information," Officer Niccole Pacchetti, a

public information officer, said in an email. □



**Shown is the scene outside an apartment building below the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge where a technology executive was fatally stabbed in San Francisco, Wednesday, April 5, 2023.**

Associated Press

## Pence won't appeal order compelling grand jury testimony

By JILL COLVIN and

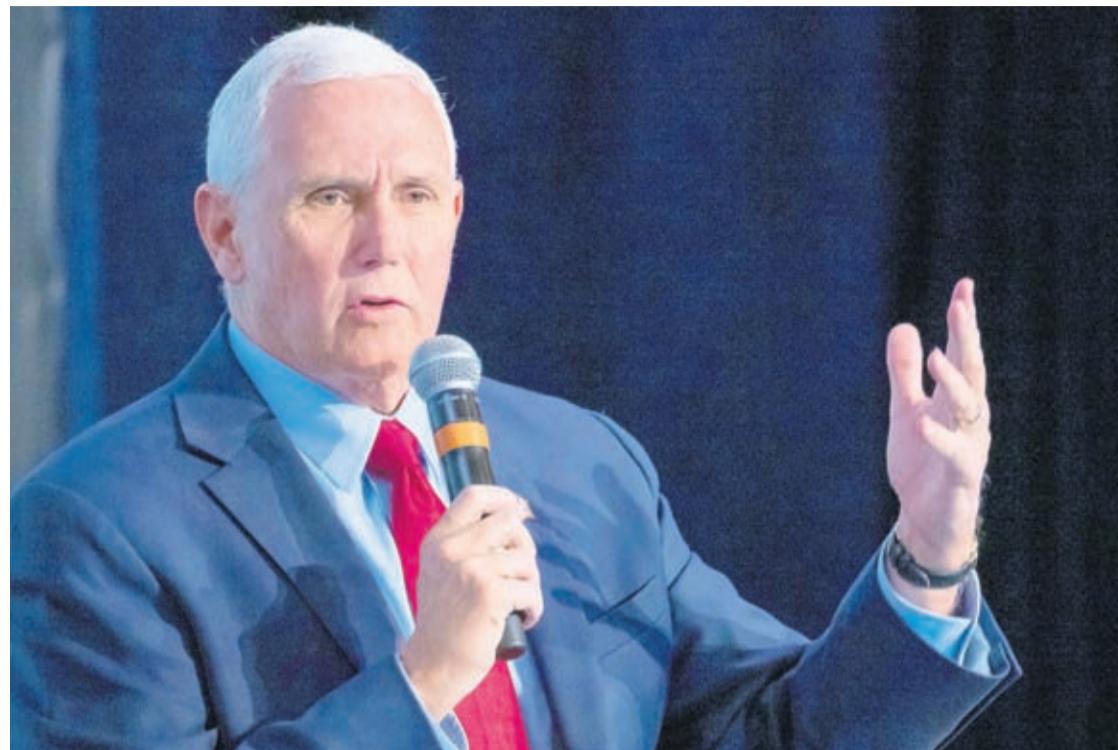
ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A spokesman for Mike Pence said Wednesday that the former vice president will not appeal a judge's order compelling him to testify in the Justice Department's investigation into efforts by Donald Trump and his allies to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

The decision sets up a possible appearance by Pence in the coming weeks before a federal grand jury scrutinizing attempts by the former president and supporters before the riot at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, to undo Democrat Joe Biden's victory.

Multiple Trump administration officials have testified in that investigation, as well in a separate inquiry examining Trump's possession of classified documents, but Pence would be the highest-profile witness to answer questions before a grand jury. His closed-door testimony could offer investigators a firsthand account of Trump's state of mind in the pivotal weeks after he lost to Biden and further expose the rift in their relationship



Former Vice President Mike Pence speaks at the National Review Ideas Summit, March 31, 2023, in Washington.

Associated Press

since the end of their administration.

The strain could grow as Pence approaches a likely 2024 run for the presidency and a challenge to Trump, who already is in the race for the Republican nomination. After Pence was subpoenaed months ago by the Justice Department's special counsel, lawyers for Trump objected on executive privilege grounds. But

a federal judge in Washington last week rejected those arguments, forcing Pence to testify. U.S. District Judge James Boasberg did give Pence a win by accepting arguments from Pence's lawyers that, for constitutional reasons, he could not be questioned about his actions on Jan. 6. They had argued that because Pence was serving in his capacity

as president of the Senate that day, he was protected from being forced to testify under the Constitution's "speech or debate" clause, which is intended to protect members of Congress from questioning about official legislative acts.

"Having vindicated that principle of the Constitution, Vice President Pence will not appeal the judge's

ruling and will comply with the subpoena as required by law," Pence spokesman Devin O'Malley said in a statement Wednesday.

The Trump team could still appeal the executive privilege ruling from Boasberg. The Jan. 6 and classified records investigations are being led by Jack Smith, a former war crimes prosecutor who was named by the Justice Department in November to serve as special counsel. It is not clear when the investigations might end or whether anyone will be charged.

Pence has spoken extensively about Trump's pressure campaign urging him to reject Biden's victory in the days leading up to Jan. 6, including in his book, "So Help Me God." Pence, as vice president, had a ceremonial role overseeing Congress' counting of the Electoral College vote, but did not have the power to affect the results, despite Trump's contention otherwise.

Pence has said that Trump endangered his family and everyone else who was at the Capitol that day and history will hold him "accountable." □

## Whitmer strikes 1931 abortion ban from Michigan law

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI

Associated Press

**BIRMINGHAM, Mich. (AP)**

— A near-century old abortion ban that fueled one of the largest ballot drives in Michigan history was repealed Wednesday by

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, just months after voters enshrined abortion rights in the state's constitution.

"Today, we're going to take action to make sure that our statutes and our laws reflect our values and our constitu-

tion," Whitmer said at a bill signing outside of Detroit. The 1931 abortion ban made it a four-year felony to assist in an abortion. Roe v. Wade had made the law null and void until the landmark decision was overturned in June by the U.S. Supreme Court. Courts blocked the ban from taking effect while a citizen-led initiative to enshrine abortion rights in the state's constitution received more signatures than any other ballot proposal in state history to put the question before voters. Voters overwhelmingly approved the proposal in last November's midterms, making the 1931 law unconstitutional and unenforceable.

The 1931 ban could have been enforced in the future had voters collected enough signatures to once

again amend the state constitution and repeal abortion rights. Whitmer's signature Wednesday eliminated that possibility, erasing the law completely.

"We cannot allow archaic laws to remain on our books under the assumption that they'll never be used again," said Democratic state Rep. Laurie Pohutsky. "We don't know what the future will hold and we don't know what plans abortion opponents have." Last month, the Michigan House and Senate each with a two-seat Democratic majority voted to send a repeal of the abortion ban to the governor. A majority of Republicans opposed the bill, speaking out ahead of the vote on the legality of abortion as a whole. Pohutsky, who sponsored the legislation repealing the law,

said at the event Wednesday that "this is far from the end of the story," and that the Democratic-controlled Statehouse will continue expanding access to reproductive health care.

Wednesday's signing marked another victory for abortion rights supporters in Michigan, who joined California and Vermont last November in enshrining abortion rights in their state's constitution. Kentucky, a reliably red state, rejected a ballot measure aimed at denying any state constitutional protections for abortion.

Voters in Wisconsin elected a Democratic-backed Milwaukee judge Tuesday to the state's Supreme Court, ensuring liberals will take over majority control of the court with the fate of the state's abortion ban on the line. □



Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signs legislation to repeal the 1931 abortion ban statute, which criminalized abortion in nearly all cases during a bill signing ceremony, Wednesday, April 5, 2023, in Birmingham, Mich.

Associated Press

## Dutch court nixes plan to reduce flights at Schiphol Airport

By MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands

(AP) — A judge ruled Wednesday that the Dutch government cannot order Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, one of Europe's busiest aviation hubs, to reduce the number of flights from 500,000 per year to 460,000, dealing a blow to efforts to cut emissions and noise pollution.

The ruling came in a summary case brought by airlines and civil aviation organizations led by Dutch carrier KLM that sought to halt the planned cuts unveiled last year.

The decision by a judge in Haarlem, a city close to Schiphol, came a day after the airport announced plans to phase out all flights between midnight and 5 a.m., ban private jets and the noisiest planes, and abandon a project for an additional runway.

The judge ruled that the Dutch government did not follow the correct procedure when it called on Schiphol to reduce flight numbers, a decision that was hailed last year as a breakthrough by environmental groups. Wednesday's decision means that Schiphol "may not reduce the maximum number of



Travelers wait in long lines outside the terminal building to check in and board flights at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, Netherlands, on June 21, 2022.

Associated Press

flights ... to 460,000," the court in Haarlem said in a statement. In response, KLM said it plans measures that offer "a better alternative for achieving less noise and CO2 while meeting travelers' need to fly."

The airline said it would explain its approach in the next phase of the case. "This will investigate whether noise levels can be reduced around Schiphol using methods other than those envisaged by the ministry," KLM said.

The government ministry responsible for aviation infrastructure said it was study-

ing the ruling and considering its next steps.

The ministry said in a written reaction that it is "striving to find a new balance between the interests of residents and the living environment on the one hand and the economic importance of Schiphol for the Netherlands on the other." U.S. carrier Delta Air Lines welcomed the ruling, saying it safeguarded Schiphol's future.

"Delta believes that it is possible to balance sustainability priorities with passengers' desire to travel and connect with people

across the world — something we have demonstrated through a vigorous commitment to fleet renewal and other practices to help decarbonize our operations and reduce noise," Peter Carter, Delta's executive vice president for external affairs, said. International Air Transport Association Director General Willie Walsh said the judge "understood that the Dutch government violated its obligations in short-cutting processes that would bring scrutiny to its desire to cut flight numbers at Schiphol." □

## Brazil man kills 4 children with hatchet at daycare center

By DAVID BILLER and

LAÍS MARTINS

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) —

A man with a hatchet

jumped over a wall and invaded a daycare center Wednesday in Brazil, killing four children and wounding at least five others, au-

thorities said.

The assailant turned himself in at a police station and did not appear to have any connection with the center, which offers nursery services, preschool education and after-school activities. The dead were between the ages of 5 and 7, authorities said.

Authorities were searching for a motive, the police detective leading the investigation, Ronnie Esteves, told television reporters in Blumenau, a city in southern Brazil, near the Atlantic coast.

Images broadcast on networks showed weeping parents outside the private daycare center called

Cantinho do Bom Pastor. The attack took place on the center's playground, according to the local affiliate of television network Globo. NSC, the affiliate, showed a photo of the suspect with a closely shaved head. Police have yet to confirm his identity.

Blumenau's mayor, Mário Hildebrandt, suspended classes and said he will declare a 30-day mourning period. The state government said in a statement that rumors circulating on social media of other potential attacks were false.

The mayor said five wounded children were taken to hospitals. One was in serious condition. □



An ambulance is parked outside the private daycare center "Cantinho do Bom Pastor" after a fatal attack on children in Blumenau, Santa Catarina state, Brazil, Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

Associated Press

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## U.S. flies nuclear-capable bombers amid tensions with N. Korea

By HYUNG-JIN KIM

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

The United States flew nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to the Korean Peninsula again on Wednesday in a show of strength against North Korea amid concerns that the North might conduct a nuclear test.

The long-range bombers took part in joint aerial drills with U.S. and South Korean fighter jets over the Korean Peninsula, South Korea's Defense Ministry said. It said it was the first deployment of U.S. B-52 bombers to the peninsula in a month.

The drills "show the strong resolve of the (South) Korea-U.S. alliance and its perfect readiness to respond to any provocation by North Korea swiftly and overwhelmingly," Lt. Gen. Park Ha Sik, commander of the South Korean air force operation command, said in a statement.

The South Korean and U.S. militaries have been expanding their combined military drills in response to North Korea's nuclear and missile threats.

The allies conducted their biggest field exercises in



In this photo provided by South Korean Defense Ministry, a U.S. B-52 bomber, C-17, and U.S. Air Force F-22 fighter jets fly over the Korean Peninsula during a joint air drill in South Korea on Dec. 20, 2022.

Associated Press

five years and computer simulations last month. The U.S. also sent the nuclear-powered USS Nimitz aircraft carrier for joint naval training with South Korea last week and U.S.-South Korea-Japan anti-submarine drills this week.

North Korea sees such drills as provocations that show its rivals' intention of at-

tacking the North. A day after the last flight by a B-52 bomber to the peninsula on March 6, Kim Yo Jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, warned that her country was ready to take "quick, overwhelming action" against the United States and South Korea.

North Korea has since test-

launched a series of nuclear-capable weapons designed to attack South Korea and the United States. They included the North's longest-range Hwasong-17 intercontinental ballistic missile, a developmental nuclear-capable underwater drone and cruise missiles fired from a submarine.

Last week, North Korea

unveiled a new battlefield nuclear warhead to fit on short-range weapons targeting South Korea. That touched off speculation that it may want to carry out its first nuclear test since 2017 because its last two nuclear test detonations happened after it disclosed other new warheads. If conducted, it would be the North's seventh nuclear weapons test.

Whether North Korea has functioning nuclear-armed missiles remains a subject of debate. Some experts say a nuclear detonation would be aimed at testing a miniaturized warhead for short-range missiles because the country's recent weapons tests have focused more on weapons that place key military installations in South Korea, including U.S. military bases there, within striking distance.

Kim Jong Un has said North Korea won't return to de-nuclearization talks with the U.S. unless Washington drops hostile policies toward the North, an apparent reference to its joint military drills with South Korea and U.S.-led international economic sanctions. □

## U.N.: Ban on Afghan female staffers by Taliban unacceptable

By RAHIM FAIEZ

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) —

The U.N. said Wednesday it cannot accept a Taliban decision to bar Afghan female staffers from working at the agency, calling it an "unparalleled" violation of women's rights.

The statement came a day after the U.N. said it had been informed by Afghanistan's ruling Taliban that Afghan women would no longer be allowed to work for the world body. That announcement came after the U.N. mission in the country expressed concern that its female staffers were prevented from reporting to work in eastern Nangarhar province.

The Taliban decision is "an unparalleled violation of

women's rights, a flagrant breach of humanitarian principles, and a breach of international rules," Wednesday's statement said.

The Taliban have not com-

mented publicly on the ban and have not released a statement.

The U.N. statement said several U.N. national female personnel have already experienced restrictions on

their movements, including harassment, intimidation and detention.

"The UN has therefore instructed all national staff men and women not to report to the office until further notice," the statement said.

Despite initial promises of a more moderate rule than during its previous stint in power, the Taliban have imposed harsh measures since taking over the country in 2021 as U.S. and NATO forces were pulling out of Afghanistan after two decades of war.

Girls are banned from education beyond sixth grade. Women are barred from working, studying, traveling without a male companion, and even going to parks.

Women must also cover themselves from head to toe.

Afghan women were already barred from working at national and international non-governmental organizations, disrupting the delivery of humanitarian aid, but the ban did not previously cover working for the U.N.

That changed this week. On Wednesday, the U.N. mission said that according to the Taliban order, no Afghan woman is permitted to work for the U.N. in Afghanistan, and that "this measure will be actively enforced."

The ban is unlawful under international law and cannot be accepted by the United Nations, the statement said. □



The symbol of the United Nations is displayed outside the Secretariat Building, Feb. 28, 2022, at United Nations Headquarters.

Associated Press

## In April we celebrate Padu del Caribe!



(Oranjestad)—On April 26th, 1920, Juan Chabaya Lampe "Padu Lampe/Padu del Caribe" was born in Nassaustraat, Oranjestad and has become one of the most beloved figures in the history of Aruba.

Padu will always be in Aruba's heart, because he had composed various special songs dedicated to the mothers of the island; his song "Sonrisa di un baby" ("A baby's Smile") has been written in three different languages. Padu also wrote our national anthem "Aruba Dushi Tera", along with Mr. Rufo Wever. This song was approved by the government of Aruba and was named the official anthem of the island in 1976.

Other songs that have been considered as being almost a second anthem for Arubans is the special composition he wrote for his wife Daisy Croes called "Abo so". Daisy later passed away in 1994.

Padu remained a popular artist within the Dutch Antilles and the Caribbean as a pianist, singer, author and painter. Padu Lampe was a local artist who became renowned in Venezuela, Colombia, The U.S. and The Netherlands too. In the 1950s, he sold no less than 50 thousand copies of his long-playing albums (LPs).

He grew up in a happy musical environment, and it is because of this that he developed a love for music. Starting from the age of 12, he was agile in the clarinet, mandolin and cuatro. Henry Lampe, his father, was also a well-known pianist and musician.

In a publication of the informative seminar, "Observer", from August 1st, 1962, Padu's many merits and friendly personality stood out. It was said that he was an excellent pianist with a personal style and full of sur-



prises. Secondly, though the composer was not too familiar with music theory, he showed innovations in his compositions. Lastly, Padu was a promoter of Creole music around the world.

One of the most important moments in Aruban history, in which he was able to witness first-hand, was the first radio broadcast on the island on March 20th, 1954. Here, he was accompanied by Antillean guitarist Julian Coco and Hubert "Loi" Boo. In the art world, Padu was also a known painter. During his youth, he made several paintings using his unique style. In 1939, he participated in an art exhibit in New York, where he won a bronze medal for his painting "Typical View of Aruba."

Padu Lampe was a multifaceted artist, inspired by his interest in parapsychology and supernatural phenomena. He wrote three books in Papiamento on the subject in 1986, which was published by the Aruban National Printing Press with sponsorship provided by the Prince Bernhard Funds Netherlands Antilles.

Besides that, Padu passed his exam on "Society to Advanced Ethical Hypnosis" in 1964 in New Jersey. He received a certificate as a hypnotician, which gave him the authority to practice hypnosis in some states.

Over the course of his career, he received many accolades and awards in Aruba, Curacao, Venezuela and the Netherlands. Padu del Caribe passed away on November 29th, 2019, at the age of 99 years old. Padu brought the Aruban culture around the world. His legacy will remain ingrained in the Aruban cultural history, and he will be known forever as one of the most influential trailblazers of our community.□

## Jairo Erasmus represents Aruba during LA Fashion Week



(Oranjestad)—On March 25th in the Union Station in Los Angeles, California, the prestigious LA Fashion Week took place, where a big audience gathered to watch the designers' new collections. Among these designers was Jairo Erasmus, a Puerto Rican based Aruban designer.

Jairo presented his new gala collection called "Alegria," which had a big reception filled with applause from the audience. In the past, Jairo also presented at New York Fashion week.

His models included Aaliyah Cruz Ramos and Xiomara Martinez Yordan (Puerto Rico), Sydney Zheng, Joshua Salazar

and Brandon Monsalvo (USA), and of course, Alexia Chin, Charlena Clarinda, Ashante Mar-tus and Tanique Chan (Aruba), who were all there along with parents, friends and family.

Hair and make-up was styled by renowned Puerto Rican stylist Juan Carlos Bou Cintron.

The night filled with excitement the moment Jairo was announced with his collection. Many from the public raised the Aruban flag.

At the end of his show, he was joined by Tanique Chan, where they both walked hand-in-hand with the Aruban and Puerto Rican flag.□





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## Paseo Herencia is always fun and exciting to visit



**NOORD**— Paseo Herencia offers a variety of shopping, dining and entertainment options in an outdoor center located in the heart of Palm Beach – walking distance from the high-rise hotels.

### Shopping

The Paseo Herencia stores offer a great collection in beach wear, clothing, perfume, shoes, jewelry, souvenirs and much more. Pamper yourself by visiting Maggy's and enjoy their salon services and shop for your favorite beauty products. Aruba Aloe has that perfect gift to bring back home, all made with natural ingredients. Other brand favorites are Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Aldo, Carmen Steffens, Nike store, Pandora and many more.

### Restaurants

Start with a breakfast meal at Paseo Herencia offering unique breakfast options such as Drunk's Denial with their Make it Your Own Crêpe Bar offering sweet and savory crêpe flavors and the option to booze it up with their Mimosa crêpe (mandarin soaked in champagne), Pina Colada (pineapples in coconut rum), Bourbon



Apple, Brandy Apricot, Whiskey Pear and more. Location can be found by following the bakery smell upon arrival. Another option is Seabarita offering you delicious breakfast options ranging from Huevos Rancheros to empanadas surrounded by a cozy picnic setting with streetside view. Go Argentinian style at Che Bar and try their delicious omelet with chorizo/ham, mozzarella, onions, peppers, and tomatoes served with skillet potatoes and toast. Looking for something for the whole family? Visit TGI Fridays and choose between waffle, omelets, breakfast sandwiches and tacos starting at \$8. These restaurants are also open for lunch & dinner offering you a variety of cuisine choices. If you're looking for more unique concepts, join us for dinner at Xixon Restaurant greatly known in Miami for their Spanish inspired dishes with top notch flavors and the largest wine variety or visit The Lazy Turtle and try their exotic African dish "Kuvuta Kuku" accompanied by their tasty lazy cocktails. Coming for drinks? Sip and have a good time at the Bulldog Aruba located in the center of the Plaza. Open till late.

### VIP Cinema

Visit the one-of-a-kind Caribbean Cinemas VIP on the second floor of Paseo Herencia and enjoy your favorite movies in the most comfortable reclining seats with high quality screens with the latest projection and 7.1 Dolby surround

sound and not to forget their delicious buttery bag of popcorn.

### Entertainment

Catch live shows from Monday to Thursday and Sunday at 8pm on the Paseo center stage and the nightly water shows at 7:30pm, 8:30pm and 9:30pm. Looking for some adrenaline? Visit the Airsoft experience located behind The Lazy Turtle. Snap Instagramable pictures at the Angel Wings located between Pandora and Free Spirit or the Flying mosaic hearts located behind King Churros. Parking up to two hours is free when shopping, dining or catching a movie at Paseo Herencia. Just present your purchase receipt at our parking cashier.

To learn more about our specials and events, visit the Paseo Herencia website [www.paseoherencia.com](http://www.paseoherencia.com). □



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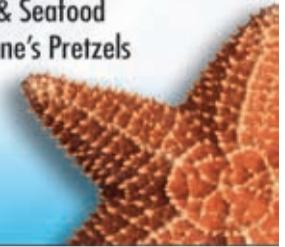
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## WIND CREEK ARUBA LAUNCHES

### NEW EMPLOYEE GED ® CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

**Aruba's Leading Hospitality Employer Expands Corporate Citizenship Investing in Employee Growth and Community Development**

**ORANJESTAD, Aruba (April 4, 2023) – Wind Creek Aruba, a preferred employer in the Aruban hospitality industry, recently announced the launch of their new GED ® Certification Program aimed at giving back to the community and geared toward employee growth and development. The company-wide initiative is designed to empower employees' individual talents and invest in their personal growth to facilitate opportunities for career development and future employment.**

The initiative is part of the company's core value system and objective to create a positive impact on the community. Wind Creek Aruba recognizes the value of investing in their current and future team members by providing them with opportunities for personal and professional growth. In collaboration with the International School of Aruba, the program will help employees further their education and achieve their career goals, ultimately benefiting the team members, Wind Creek Aruba, and the local community.

"Wind Creek Aruba is committed to being a responsible corporate citizen and investing in the development of our employees as part of a larger initiative to give back and strengthen

the local community we are fortunate to operate within," said Paul Gielen, General Manager at Wind Creek Aruba. "We believe that this program will not only benefit our team members but also our company, as it will enable us to retain and attract talented individuals who are committed to their personal and professional growth."

Aruba's leading resort and hospitality leader has committed to pay the full cost of obtaining a General Education Development (GED) degree starting with 30 eligible. To be eligible, applicants must pass an admissions exam, demonstrate that they are enthusiastically committed to the purpose, and live the value of Do It Right, Be the Best, Have Fun and be recognized by their superiors as a suitable candidate to receive the opportunity.

"I've been an employee of Wind Creek Aruba, working at the Crystal Casino for five years," said Lydia Franken, Player Services Representative at Wind Creek Crystal Casino. "I was a young mom and at the age of 18 I needed to put my education aside to support my family. When the company announced the GED ® Certification Program I jumped at the opportunity and have recently passed the GED as-

essment exam. It is amazing what the company and its leadership are doing for us. Beyond the cost, they have accounted for our time as we work in shifts and have families to take care of when we're not working. This program will allow me to take classes at work without sacrificing my salary and time away from my family. I'm very grate-

ful to Wind Creek Aruba for this opportunity and eager to get started. It will be a proud moment for me and my family when I graduate with this degree!"

The GED program will take approximately six months to complete and will cover essential topics such as reading, writing, math, and social studies. By partnering

with a reputable institution like the International School of Aruba, Wind Creek Aruba is proud to provide current and future employees with a high-quality education that will prepare them with essential skills and provide access to opportunities that may not have been available without further education.□

**beauty  
& THE BEACH**

Aruba Today is delighted to share to its readers a new segment called "Beauty and the Beach", where we take a minute to honor our guests who have decided to spend their vacation on our beautiful and warm island.

In this edition, we'd like to give a shout out to **Donna from Connecticut, U.S.A.** This is her first time visiting and she said that she loves the warm weather, especially in September. Aruba is always proud to host all families and guests. We at Aruba Today encourage any visitor of the island to send in their pictures and/or messages; who knows? You might get on the cover!

*This segment is sponsored by Alhambra Casino and Shops.*



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## Launch of 'Telephone for the Elderly' helpline 125 to combat loneliness



ORANJESTAD - On April 3, 2023, the Elderly Telephone launched a joint project of the Department of Elderly Affairs and Club Kibrahacha.

It is a joint project between these two organizations.

The new telephone number is 125 and aims to provide support and compassion to people over 60 years in Aruba and combat loneliness and isolation.

Club Kibrahacha provided telephone support during the pandemic and has restarted this project thanks to the Department of Elderly Affairs. The Club Kibrahacha can be reached Monday to Friday between 8:30 AM and 12:00 PM.

Our community is changing and developing so that when elderly persons retire, they can go home and relax. Their children have jobs, and they also have fewer grandchildren. For this reason, many elderly are lonely and no longer actively participate in society.

Telephone 125 offers services and care adapted to the needs of senior citizens and creates a new vision of old age in Aruba. The elderly population, with their experience, knowledge, and wisdom, deserves to be an essential part of the community. The 125 helpline is a valuable help to those who need social contact and to be heard with compassion and empathy. This way, they help the elderly connect with others when they feel isolated, excluded, or alone.

The slogan "Mi ta Inclui" reflects the principal purpose of the telephone line, which is to reduce loneliness and isolation of the elderly population.

Minister Ursell Arends thanks the Department of Elderly Affairs and Club Kibrahacha for realizing the Elderly Telephone. For more information, visit [www.mitainclui.aw](http://www.mitainclui.aw) or the Facebook page "Mi Ta Inclui." □

## School Games 2023 WE ARUBA



ORANJESTAD - Recently, the Minister of Education and Sports, Mr. Endy Croes announced that the School Games (Wega Escolar) Aruba this year takes place from May 26 to June 10, 2023.

The School Games were launched in 2022 by the Ministry of Education and Sports and IBISA. The selection process already took place, and the final competitions will start on May 26, 2023. For 2023, 40 schools are classified and are happy to compete for the first spot. All the schools will receive their corresponding uniform.

Prime Minister Evelyn Wever-Croes was also present at this occasion and showed support for the second edition of the School Games. The Ministers thank IBISA, stakeholders, participating schools, and parents for encouraging their children.

The Prime Minister invites the Aruban community, particularly the parents, to support the children throughout the School Games 2023. She wishes all schools and participants all the best in WE Aruba 2023. □



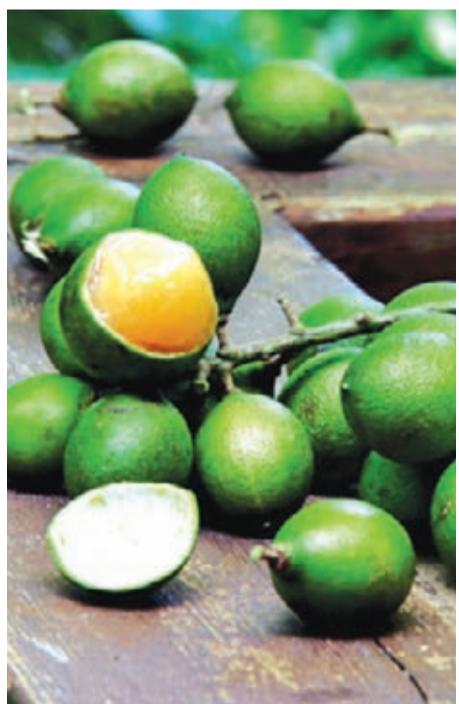
# Fruit Loose & Veggie Boost: Aruban fruits and vegetables

**Fresh fruits make a tropical holiday's picture complete. Whether you see the mangoes hanging in the trees or the fresh fruit cocktail on the side table of your pool bed, the link is there: you are in the tropics. Aruba grows her own fruits and veggies and there are some pretty out-of-space local species you may never had heard of, but really healthy and delicious.**

## Mispel

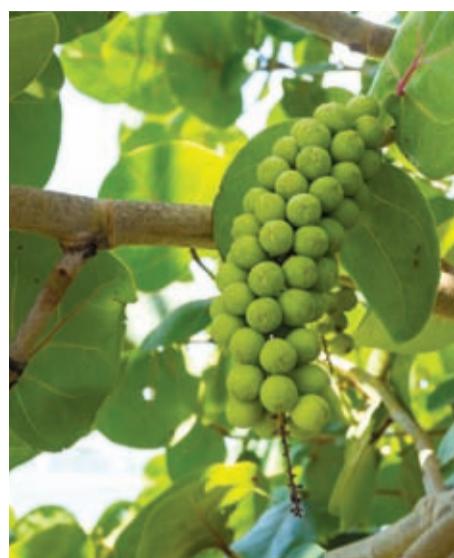
This is a fruit with a character (5-10 cm/2-4 inches). It does not ripe until it is picked or falls off the tree. Mispel is hard with a sandpaper like texture when immature, soft and juicy when ripe. It's technically a berry, but contains a skin similar to that of a kiwi. It's grainy and sweet, with a light, musky flavor. The sap or gum from the tree is also a source of 'chicle' the original ingredient used to make chewing gum. Rich in tannins, antioxidants shown to contain anti-inflammatory compounds, and vitamin C, essential for healthy immune function. Season: year-round.

## Kenepa



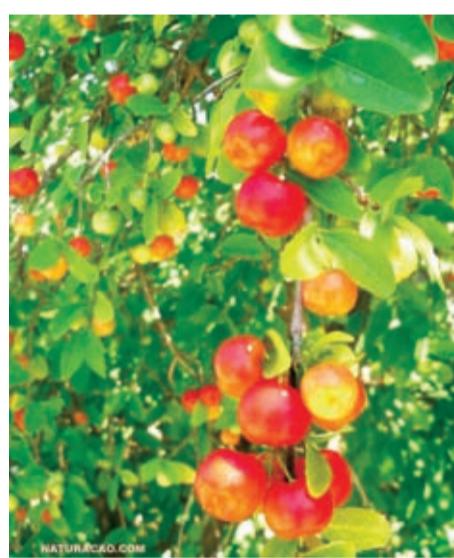
Ovoid green fruit that grows in bunches on trees up to 30m high. The fruit is related to the lychee and have tight, thin but rigid skins. Inside the skin is the tart, tangy, or sweet pulp of the fruit covering a large seed. The pulp is usually cream or orange colored. Kenepa strengthens the immune system, and prevents the reproduction of bacteria and viruses in the body. This fruit is highly recommended to treat lung infections and urinary tract infections. It also helps to cure insomnia and rejuvenates the nervous system. Season: the fruit typically ripen during the summer.

## Druif



There is no chance you did not bump into one of the sea grape trees while spending your vacation on Aruba. The sea grape plant is often used in ocean-side landscaping in sandy soil right on the beach and it produces clusters of fruit that resemble grapes. Are sea grapes edible? Yes, they are. Animals enjoy sea grapes and humans can eat them as well, and they are used to make jam. They contain very low calories and sugar, enabling good bacterium to digest food and excrete waste quickly which is effective in preventing constipation. Season: Sep-Oct.

## Shimarucu



Maybe Aruba's most popular wild fruit tree. You may have noticed cars at the side of the road and people picking those red berries. Well, that's Shimarucu. The local habit to stop for these delicious fruits goes from generation to generation. Its fruit's degree of sour depends on the amount of rain it gets. Red Shimarucus tend to taste better than orange. The fruit has super power: a true vitamin bomb. Adults only need to eat 3-4 of these berries to meet their daily recommended amount of Vitamin C. Season: Rainy months (Oct-Jan).

## Tamarind



A delicious, sweet fruit that has a wide variety of uses and applications, both for medicinal and culinary purposes. It is a medium-sized bushy tree with evergreen leaves and fruit that develops in pods characterized by long, brown shells. Inside is a sticky, fleshy, juicy pulp, which is the Tamarind fruit. Both sweet and sour in taste, the fruit contains a significant level of vitamin C, as well as vitamin E, B vitamins, calcium, iron, phosphorous, potassium, manganese, and dietary fiber. There are also a number of organic compounds that make tamarind a powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agent. Season: March.

When it comes to veggies the island certainly offers a home-grown selection. They taste delicious and have their specific talents to boost your immune system. Start the day with a 'batida' (smoothie) enriched with a local veggie touch or select your restaurant that offers local vegetable dishes to get the real pure taste of it.

## Comcomber chiquito



This is a sort of local squash, but looks like a cucumber with prickly skin. The taste however is bitterer than the cucumber and the vegetable is smaller in size but bigger in width. Inside is a soft, fleshy pulp and seeds, just like the cucumber. Comcomber chiquito is grown in the island and used in salads and 'stoba' (stew) or on its own in vinegar. The veggie contains multiple B vitamins, including vitamin B1, vi-

amin B5, and vitamin B7 (biotin). B vitamins are known to help ease feelings of anxiety and buffer some of the damaging effects of stress. Additionally this veggie is rich in two of the most basic elements needed for healthy digestion: water and fiber. Season: year-round.

## Yambo

Family of Okra, also known as 'lady's fingers': a green flowering plant. Okra belongs to the same plant family as hibiscus and cotton. A classic favorite dish in Aruba is Sopi di yambo. It has long been favored as a food for the health-conscious. It contains potassium, vitamin B, vitamin C, folic acid, and calcium. It's low in calories and has a high dietary fiber content. Recently, a new benefit of including okra in your diet is being considered. Okra has been suggested to help manage blood sugar in cases of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. Season: year-round.

## Bonch'i Cunucu

A long, small bean, boiled for a side dish or snack. Long beans have a chewy, crunchy texture—more so than snap beans—and a flavor reminiscent of the dry navy bean or asparagus. Besides stir-fry, soups and salads, the long bean is a good choice for stewing, braising (to remain chewy and firm), sautéing, shallow frying, and deep frying. With cooking, the long bean's bean flavor intensifies. Long beans are low in calories, about 45 calories per cup, and rich in vitamin A and also contain vitamin C and potassium. Season: year-round.

## Pompuna



In the endless summer of Caribbean living we only have to concern ourselves with a wet season and a dry season. Still we do indulge heavily in the pleasures of pumpkin and enjoy Caribbean pumpkin recipes year round. A popular dish in Aruban restaurants is Sopa Di Pompuna, don't miss it. This dish is made of pumpkin soup, and parsley. Pumpkins are rich in flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants such as xanthin, lutein and carotenes and also contain vitamins. Pumpkin seeds are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and proteins. Pumpkins are used to make desserts, breads and soups. □

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

- 1 Bunches
- 5 Small herring
- 10 Stubbs of the Four Tops
- 11 Tough situation
- 12 Perfect place
- 13 Made up
- 14 Curbside noise-maker
- 16 Arctic regions
- 20 Gentle touch
- 23 Pitching stat
- 24 Follows orders
- 25 Intense beam
- 27 CEO's deg.
- 28 Like some lines
- 29 Spot for a shot
- 32 Base for shingles
- 36 Mississippi port
- 39 Zilch
- 40 Loves to pieces
- 41 Shade
- 42 Recesses
- 43 Woeful cry

**DOWN**

- 1 Guinness of film



Yesterday's answer



AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-6

## CRYPTOQUOTE

GV DRA IVBL VZ KVRB HLAXBL

UQCZ VZ KVRB HVRSU CZH

UQL HBLCI YXMM UCPL DCBL

VG XUALMG — ICBP UYCXZ

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I LOVE PASSOVER BECAUSE FOR ME IT IS A CRY AGAINST INDIFFERENCE, A CRY FOR COMPASSION. — ELIE WIESEL



This June 2, 2021, photo shows a person working on a laptop at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Arlington, Va.

Associated Press

## What Biden's 'junk fee' crusade could mean for travelers

By SAM KEMMIS of Nerd-Wallet

U.S. presidents don't usually wade into the minutiae of airline seat selection, yet that's exactly what President Joe Biden did during his State of the Union Address earlier this year, spending nearly two minutes of the speech decrying "junk fees."

"We'll prohibit airlines from charging \$50 round-trip for a family just to be able to sit together," Biden said during the speech. "Baggage fees are bad enough. Airlines can't treat your child like a piece of baggage." The past decade has seen an explosion in the sophistication with which airlines, hotels and vacation rentals earn additional revenue through add-on fees. Yet travelers, and the politicians who represent them, may have had enough.

"Consumers have been fed up with this for some time," says Lauren Wolfe, counsel at traveler advocacy group Travelers United and founder of the website KillResortFees.com. "Americans shouldn't have to deal with deceptive drip pricing," Wolfe added, referring to the practice in which fees are added throughout the checkout process rather than disclosed upfront.

Now the question is what changes to these fees could be in store and what those changes will mean

for travelers.

## HOW WE GOT HERE

The "à la carte" model of offering low initial prices with fees for add-ons became commonplace in the internet search era. Customers using online search tools to book travel were looking for the cheapest option, which incentivized budget airlines such as Spirit and Frontier to offer low base fares with costlier add-on fees. □

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# AP exclusive: MLB average salary up 11% year after lockout

By RONALD BLUM  
AP Baseball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A year removed from a labor lockout that postponed opening day, major league players are enjoying their biggest salary spike in more than two decades.

The average Major League Baseball salary was up 11.1% to a record \$4.9 million to start this season, the largest jump for the sport since 2001, according to a study by The Associated Press.

The surge follows a spending spree in the first off-season since players and owners agreed to a five-year collective bargaining agreement last March.

"It's a step in the right direction," said Texas Rangers second baseman Marcus Semien, part of the union's eight-member executive subcommittee who helped negotiate the CBA.

The New York Mets led the way with a \$355 million payroll, \$70 million more than the previous high for a season's start. Seven teams topped \$200 million.

Oakland was last at \$58 million less than the combined salaries of Mets pitchers Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander, who tied for the major league high of \$43.3 million.

This year's percentage rise was the largest since a 13.9% jump in 2001.

"It's about damn time, honestly," said Tampa Bay



**New York Mets starting pitcher Max Scherzer throws to Miami Marlins' Jorge Soler during the second inning of an opening day baseball game, Thursday, March 30, 2023, in Miami.**

Associated Press

Rays pitcher Zach Eflin, who signed a \$40 million, three-year deal in December. "It's been pretty much a joke the past five, 10 years about the way the players have been paid the minimum salaries."

Aaron Judge, Manny Machado, Trea Turner, Xander Bogaerts, Carlos Correa and Jacob deGrom all got big deals during an offseason that saw the average shatter the previous high of \$4.45 million in 2017. "Teams are making money, players are making it. So it's good all around," said deGrom, who left the Mets for Texas.

Of 943 players in the major leagues on opening day, 546 had salaries of \$1 million or more, 58%, and up from 514 last year.

"The stance that we took was great, getting players to be paid more is what we want," Correa said. "Obviously, we bring a lot to this game. But at the same time us as players have to keep putting up the work, making sure that after we get contracts, we keep performing to the highest level for teams to keep spending and keep going big."

Judge was third at \$40 million after hitting an American League-record 62

homers. Seven of 11 highest-paid players are with teams in New York or Los Angeles, a sign of the economic power of the large markets.

"I saw the revenue numbers for the game last year," said Yankees pitcher Gerrit Cole, also a member of the players' association's executive subcommittee during negotiations.

"So when those continue to go up, then players salaries should go up with that, as well."

After setting a record in 2017, the average dropped by just under 1% in each of the following two years and

fell as low at \$4.2 million in 2021 after the pandemic-shortened season.

Unhappy with their share of spending, players endured a 99-day lockout before agreeing to a labor contract last March. Spending resumed at a frenetic pace, and the average rose 6% to \$4.4 million in 2022.

This winter, spending was spurred by paydays for streaming and broadcast rights, an expanded post-season format and rising ticket prices.

"It's a barometer of the wealth of the game" agent Scott Boras said. "It's always great business to invest in players, and this increase reflects investment in the great players of the game."

Steve Cohen has boosted payroll steadily since buying the Mets, who were at \$154 million in 2019, the last full season under the Wilpon and Katz families. Their spending rose to \$186 million in 2021 and \$266 million last year, when they started second to the Dodgers but wound up first after Los Angeles pitcher Trevor Bauer was suspended for most of the season without pay.

The Yankees are second at \$275 million followed by San Diego (\$258 million), NL champion Philadelphia (\$236 million), the Dodgers (\$222 million), the Angels (\$212 million) and Toronto (\$210 million). □



**Tampa Bay Rays catcher Francisco Mejia, right, can't tag Washington Nationals' Stone Garrett, as he scores on a hit by Victor Robles during the second inning of a baseball game at Nationals Park, Wednesday, April 5, 2023, in Washington.**

Associated Press

## Franco and Ramirez homer in Rays 7-2 win over Nationals

By HARVEY VALENTINE  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Wander Franco and Harold Ramirez each had two hits including a home run, and the Tampa Bay Rays defeated the Washington Nationals 7-2 on Wednesday. The Rays improved to 6-0 and extended the best start in franchise history. They are off to the best start of any team since Baltimore opened 7-0 in 2016.

Taylor Walls and Randy Arozarena had two hits each for Tampa Bay, which has outscored opponents 44-13.

Shane McClanahan (2-0) allowed two runs on five hits and four walks over six innings, allowing at least one baserunner in every inning but the sixth. He struck out six.

Victor Robles had two hits for the Nationals, who have lost five of their first six

games.

Washington starter Patrick Corbin (0-2) gave up six runs on 10 hits over six innings.

The Rays broke open a close game in the sixth. Corbin had retired 11 in a row before Ramirez lined a homer to center with two outs. Manuel Margot then singled, stole second and scored when centerfielder Robles lost Walls fly ball in the sun for a double. □

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## Ravens GM: Jackson's status doesn't affect draft prep

By NOAH TRISTER

AP Sports Writer

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (AP) —

Baltimore general manager Eric DeCosta said Lamar Jackson's situation isn't causing the Ravens to look at quarterbacks differently in the upcoming draft, although he did say the team could conceivably take one in the first round.

DeCosta, coach John Harbaugh and director of player personnel Joe Hortiz hosted a pre-draft news conference Wednesday, and reporters were told to keep questions focused on the draft. Of course, Jackson's status affects all aspects of the team's future, and if he's not a part of it, then Baltimore would need a quarterback.

"It just depends on the board," DeCosta said when asked if taking a quarterback in the first round is a consideration. "I guess I'd have to say yes because we have quarterbacks in our top 31. So just based on that alone, simple math, I would have to say yes." As of now, the Ravens have the 22nd pick in the first round.

The Ravens put the franchise tag on Jackson last month, so if he were to reach an agreement with another team and Baltimore decided not to match it, the Ravens could receive two first-round picks in return. Jackson also announced recently that he'd requested a trade, and DeCosta wouldn't comment Wednesday on the ramifications of that.

"I understand those questions," he said. "I think we've spoken about this situation probably five different times this spring,

in various different press conferences and stuff, so we're going to try to just kind of defer to those questions and move forward to the draft."

DeCosta said Jackson's situation isn't causing the team to look at quarterbacks differently than usual. "I don't think we really

are," DeCosta said. "We go into every draft trying to take any kind of bias out, any kind of need-based situation out of the draft equation. We really do try to build a board that's really best player available, and that process involves really nine months, starting in early August." □



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) leaves the field after the end of the first half of an NFL football game against the Jacksonville Jaguars, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022, in Jacksonville, Fla.

Associated Press

  
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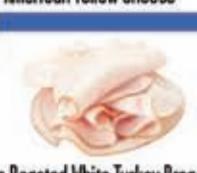
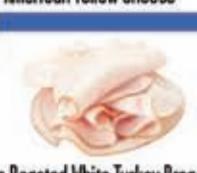
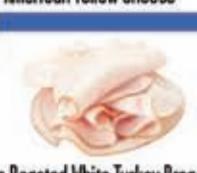
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 <p>Apple Gala 2LB</p> <p>WAS \$3.91</p> <p>\$3.34 Per Bag</p>	 <p>U.S. Boneless Porkloin</p> <p>WAS \$8.05</p> <p>\$6.28 Per KG</p>	 <p>Blueberries 6oz</p> <p>WAS \$4.39</p> <p>\$3.97 Each</p>	 <p>EE Maraschino Cherries 10oz</p> <p>WAS \$4.03</p> <p>\$3.77 Each</p>	 <p>Bumble Bee Chunk Light Tuna vegetable oil 5oz</p> <p>WAS \$1.71</p> <p>\$1.71 Each</p>				
 <p>Libby's Regular Corned Beef 340g</p> <p>WAS \$4.34</p> <p>\$3.99 Each</p>	 <p>Pillsbury Funfetti Cake Mix 15.25oz</p> <p>WAS \$3.23</p> <p>\$2.68 Each</p>	 <p>Chocomel Vol 250ml</p> <p>WAS \$2.88</p> <p>\$1.48 Each</p>	 <p>Noel Wafer Vanilla 432gr</p> <p>WAS \$4.91</p> <p>\$2.57 Each</p>	 <p>EE 100 Orange Juice 64oz</p> <p>WAS \$4.57</p> <p>\$4.57 Each</p>				
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